GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:519
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2016
Disaster Response Force
Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is working in collaboration with the other members of SAARC to raise a common disaster response force on line of UN peacekeeping forces for specialised response to natural and man made disaster;
(b) if so, the details and modalities thereof;
(c) the role to be played by India in this regional venture;
(d) whether some member countries have sought help from the Government for training their personnel; and
(e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) No.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

(d) & (e) Following Hon'ble Prime Minister's announcement at the 18th SAARC Summit (November 2014) that India's capability and expertise in disaster management would be available to South Asia, India hosted the first ever South Asian Annual Disaster Management Exercise (SAADMEx) from November 23-26, 2015 in New Delhi that saw participation of all SAARC countries. Training programmes and courses on disaster management have also been offered to SAARC member countries by institutions such as National Institute of Disaster management (NIDM) and National Disaster Relief Force (NDRF).